Cop says Bundy wanted to be shot

PENSACOLA, Fla. (AP) — Ted Bundy urged police to shoot him dead, but later vowed to use legal maneuvers to delay his execution, officers who arrested and interrogated the killer recalled Friday.

Bundy, 42, is scheduled for execution Tuesday in Florida's electric chair for slaying 12-year-old Kimberly Leach nearly 11 years ago. He also has been sentenced to death for the bludgeoning murders of two Florida State University coeds while they slept in their Tallahassee sorority house and is suspected of slaying over 30 young women in northwestern states.

Bundy also is considered a prime suspect in eight Seattle-area murders of young women in the 1970s, although charges never were filed in those cases.

The former University of Utah law student from Tacoma, Wash., was arrested in this Florida Panhandle city on Feb. 15, 1978, by Pensacola Patrolman David Lee, who scuffled with Bundy and then tried to shoot him but missed.

"I wished you would have killed me,' " Lee said Bundy told him as they drove to jail. Also, Lee said in a telephone interview, Bundy asked: "When I get to the jail and if I run, will you kill me then?"

Lee, 38, is now a captain with the Florida Game and Fresh Water Fish Commission in Lake City, where Leach was abducted.

After Bundy was brought in, Lt. Norman Chapman Jr. questioned him for 40 hours over the next couple days.

Chapman, now an internal affairs investigator, recalled that Bundy told him he would devote all of his attention while behind bars to thinking up strategies for escaping or delaying his execution.

"He said when he got in his attorney personality I wouldn't like him any more," Chapman said. "He said he would work out a plan and take it step by step."

Chapman said it appears Bundy, who hired and fired attorneys and acted as his own lawyer at various times, achieved the delays he wanted. Bundy's new offer to disclose information about other slayings in exchange for a delay in his execution also probably was just part of his plan, Chapman said.

After interviewing Bundy so extensively, Chapman said, he was convinced Bundy had committed the three Florida murders.

"He never denied killing those girls in Tallahassee. He never denied killing the little girl" in Lake City, Chapman said. "But he never admitted it, either."

Chapman said he also doesn't believe Bundy will specifically admit any of the other murders because he would have to compromise something in himself to do so.

Bundy came closest to an admission of guilt, Chapman said, when he was asked specifically if he had committed the Florida murders.

"He looked over then and had big alligator tears in his eyes and said, 'The evidence is there. Get it,' " Chapman recalled.

Chapman said he asked Bundy if any bodies would surface in Pensacola or between Tallahassee and here. Bundy said "no" to the first question but refused to answer the second, Chapman said. Bundy, however, has not been charged in any other Florida murders.

Bundy first aroused Lee's suspicion when he drove without lights from behind a restaurant on Pensacola's west side at about 1 a.m. CST.